the weight of the rotor, at least during wind-down, the weight thrust bearing means comprising at least one portion of said axle means tapering from a lower region of greater diameter to an upper region of lesser diameter and said at least one of said upper bush and said lower bush surrounding the portion conforming to the taper and defining a combined journal and thrust bearing whereby the rotor carried by the thrust bearing is centered with respect to the axle means and supported both radially and axially.

Claim 5, line 2, after "lesser" insert --inner--; and

line 4, delete "cooperating" and insert --conforming--.

--A centrifugal separator comprising a housing, axle means extending along the housing substantially vertically and defining a rotation axis, a rotor rotatable about the rotation axis about said axle means and including an upper bush and a lower bush at respective ends of said axle means, said upper bush and said lower bush each surrounding the axle means defining a journal bearing, and each being exposed to lubricant supplied to the rotor such that lubricant can pass between said upper bush and said lower bush and said axle means to form therein a film, one of said upper bush and said lower bush at one of said respective ends of said axle means exposing a greater face area to said lubricant than the other of said upper bush and said lower bush such that, when the lubricant is under pressure, said rotor will move toward one of said respective ends of said axle means; and a weight thrust bearing at the other of said respective ends of said axle means for supporting said rotor when the lubricant pressure is reduced, said